

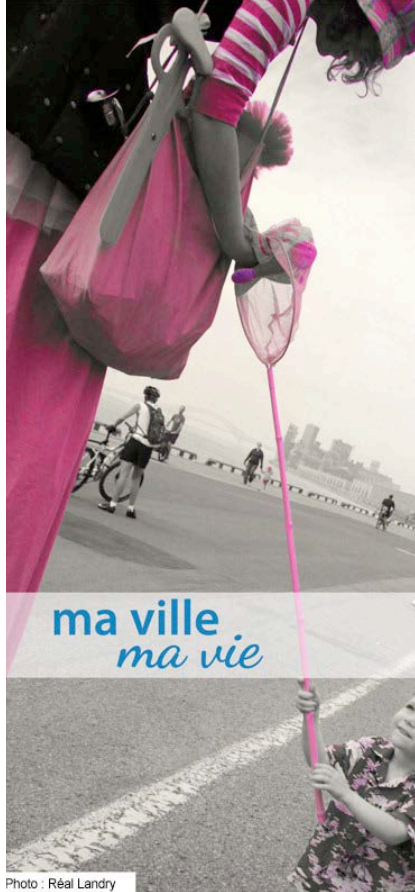
Levasseur

Vol 26 no 1 • Spring 2014



«Les Filles du Roy» (King's daughters) and the Levasseurs





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**Gathering of the Levasseur families
in Trois-Rivières September 6 & 7, 2014.**

**See attached preliminary program
on page 13**

Source of picture on cover page:

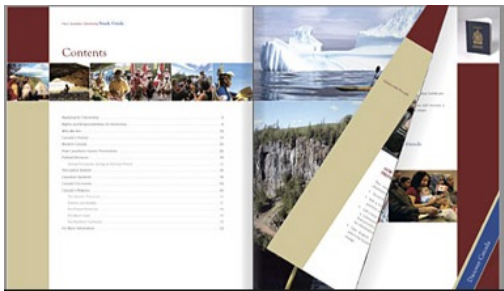
L'arrivée des Filles du Roy à
Québec, 1667
C.W. Jefferys (1869 - 1951)
NAC/ANC C-010688
Water-colours
National archives of Canada,
Ottawa
(Acquisition number 1983-45-3)
Copyright : C. W. Jefferys Estate



Editorial

We welcome you to this new edition of the Levasseur Newsletter. With this new application, you will discover new ways to consult the information presented on the Levasseur families that will include multimedia content, such as videos, photo galleries, also images and interactive links.

When viewing, with a simple command, you can change the format of the text, annotate texts, search for information by keyword, enlarge characters, scroll blogs automatically or navigate quickly using a current issue summary.



All these new features are now available either on your personal computer, tablets (IPad, Android or Windows Mobile) or your mobile phone. Members receiving the printed version of the newsletter will receive their copy by mail, but they will not be able to use the interactive tools available with the Newsletter published electronically.

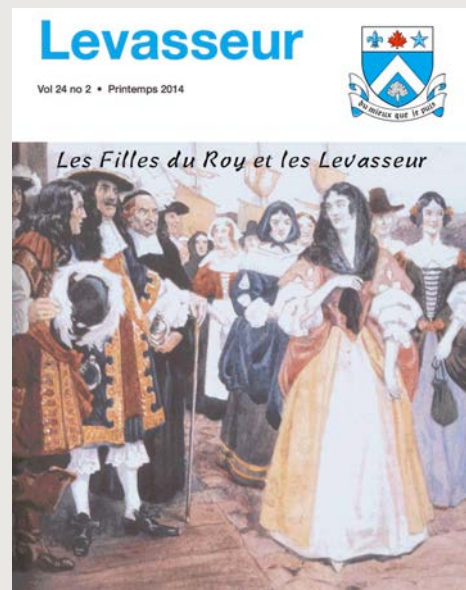
It will be always possible to print the Newsletter for future reference and consultation.

We are also pleased to inform that all previous issues of the newsletter of the Levasseur (1988 @ 2014) have been converted according to this new format. We still have to modify the menus for presentation on the Web site. When done, we will notify you.

We hope you will have as much pleasure discovering this new interactive content as did the team who developed it. The Newsletter team is doing its utmost this year to bring you this unique and new experience to view information about the Levasseur family information.

Do not forget to send us articles or references to articles that could be informative for our members.

Jean-Pierre Levasseur (250)



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«Les Filles du Roy» (King's daughters) and the Levasseur

By: [Huguette Levasseur](#)

« La Société d'histoire des Filles du Roy » (King's daughters) has proclaimed 2013 as a year to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the arrival of the first group of the King's daughters who came to New France. The Society considers these girls as "Mothers of the Québec Nation", because these brave women left France, crossed the ocean, settled in New France and came to populate the colony. They gave birth to several children. Their names appear in the genealogical trees of their descendants. Several events highlighted the arrival of the first 36 King's daughters who left France in 1663 to come to New France. To commemorate this event, there were conferences, exhibitions held at La Maison Saint-Gabriel in Montreal and in the villages of Champlain, Batiscan, Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade, also the festivities of New France in Quebec City and other activities contributed to getting them known.

Who are these «Filles du Roy» ?

They were orphans sent by King Louis XIV to New France to help populate the Colony during the period from 1663 to 1673. In 1663, the population of the settlement amounted to 2,500 people and had many single men. There were six to fourteen times more men than women of marrying age. The King of France recognized the urgent need to populate the colony in order to counter the British Atlantic colonies whose population amounted to 70,000 inhabitants. Authors

Source: *Eugénie, Fille du Roy* – René Forget

do not agree on the exact number of the King's daughters that came to the country. Yves Landry, a specialist on that subject, estimates that 764 young ladies accepted the King's offer to settle in New France.

The King's daughters left France from the ports of Dieppe and La Rochelle. The ocean crossing lasted from two to three months in frequently harsh conditions prior to disembarking in Quebec City. Many chose to remain in Québec while others went to Trois-Rivières, along the St. Lawrence Valley and to Montréal. The King Louis XIV paid for their crossing and they were given a dowry to settle in New France. Most of them had lost their father or mother or both parents and came from Paris, Normandy or Western regions of France. Some were widows. They were of various social origins, some are daughters of community leaders, business people, farmers or of unknown origin. Some were educated while some could not write their names. Upon their arrival in New-France, they are encouraged to find a partner and settle down as a married couple. Dating times are brief and in 40 percent of cases, they were married within two months.

Jeanne Levasseur or Vavasseur, fille du Roy

A question arises. Were there any Levasseurs who were members of the King's daughters?

Yes. According to Yves Landry, in his volume, *Les Filles du roi* in the 17th century, there appears the name of Jeanne Levasseur or Vavasseur. The latter is daughter of the late Nicholas and Catherine LeForestier or Fortier. Jeanne is therefore orphaned of father and



Jean Talon, Bishop François de Laval and several settlers welcome the King's Daughters upon their arrival. Painting by Eleanor Fortescue-Brickdale

mother. Her father was a merchant and butcher. It is believed that the family lived in Rouen, since Jeanne was baptized at the Saint-Eloi Church in the city of Rouen in Normandy on May 4, 1631. She had nine brothers and sisters who had been baptized in the same parish. In January 1656, she entered the convent «Refuge of Rouen», where she stayed for only two months. We know little about Jeanne's final outcome.

At the age of 36, on June 10, 1667 she embarked on the ship, St. Louis that departed from Dieppe

towards Quebec. Jeanne had assets estimated at 300 pounds. The crossing lasted three and a half months and she arrived in Quebec City on September 25, 1667. Jeanne traveled with 89 other King's daughters. Some of them embarked in Dieppe and others in La Rochelle. In addition, 100 employees were on board for the trip. The ship was also carrying fifteen horses and one died at sea. When the ship arrived in Québec city, 24 employees and 16 of the King's daughters were ill.

When the King's daughters arrived in New-France, they are often under the care of a religious order or a notable family. Where did Jeanne go? It is not known.

The King of France sent these women, «les filles du roi» to New France for them to marry the single men of the country. It is believed that many of these gentlemen were hoping to find a life companion in order to start a family. It is said that women had the choice. Dating was brief. Thus, 22 days after she set foot ashore at Québec, Jeanne went before the notary Becquet to enter into a marriage contract with Barthélemy Tesson, a widower on October 17, 1667 (Becquet contract). Their marriage was celebrated in Québec City on October 24, 1667. The couple lived in Charlesbourg and did not have any children. Neither Jeanne nor Barthélemy knew how to sign their name.

Who is Barthélemy Tesson, husband of Jeanne Levasseur?

Barthélemy was a settler and a clothing tailor, originally from the town of Cognac in Poitou-Charentes. He was born circa 1621 and therefore about ten years older than Jeanne. Jeanne is not his first wife, but his fifth.

One would believe that Barthélemy Tesson arrived in New France after the death of his fourth wife in 1664. Such is not the case. Barthélemy's name appears for the first time, as a witness at the wedding of his sister-in-law Perrine Therrien with Jean Allaire on December 10, 1662 in Québec.

On September 10, 1663, he received a land grant in the seigniorship of Liret, on l'île d'Orléans (contract P. Vachon). Barthélemy is hoping to remarry. He signed a marriage contract with Esther Coindriau (widow of Jacques de Laporte), on July 26, 1665 before notary Becquet in Québec city. This contract was annulled subsequently. Barthélemy will sell his concession of the île d'Orléans on March 14, 1666 to Jacques Gennes dit Labarre an edge tool maker and settler (contract P. Vachon).

In l'île d'Orléans 1666 census, Barthélemy Tesson's name appears. He was 45 years old living in Sainte-Famille parish and is listed as clothing tailor, widower and settler. He does not live alone. Three of his children are listed: Jean, 20 years old, François, 14 and Georges 7. Did his children arrive in New France at the same time as their father? It is possible. Jean is mentioned for the first

time in 1664, following his confirmation in Québec. Those of François and George are listed in the 1666 census.

Two days after the sale of his concession on l'île d'Orléans, on March 16, 1666, Barthélemy Tesson moves closer to Québec city. He received a concession, a plot of land, from the Jesuits, located in the seigniorship of Notre-Dame-des-Anges, in the village dit La Petite Auvergne, today in the borough of Charlesbourg (contract P. Vachon).

The 1667 census indicates that «Taysson», 50 years old, owns two acres on the seigniorship of Notre-Dame-des-Anges. He does not own any livestock

Following the marriage of Jeanne and Barthélemy, it is believed that François and Georges, his two children, are living with the new couple, as they are 15 and 8 years old. Previously, Jean, his other son, had received land in the seigniorship of Notre-Dame-des-Anges, Charlesbourg, on February 28, 1665 (contract P. Vachon); this land was sold August 29, 1667. (contract P. Vachon).

Jeanne Levasseur, a King's daughter, remained less than four years in New-France as the fifth wife of Barthélemy Tesson. She probably took care of the younger two children from Barthélemy's second marriage. Little is known about Jeanne. Was it difficult for her to adapt to the harsh country life, with its cold winters? Was she ill? It is believed that the couple chose to return to France, since Barthélemy sold his land in Charlesbourg to Elie Jean on January 19, 1670 (contract R. Becquet) and also their home on

The 1667 census indicates that «Taysson», 50 years old, owns two acres on the seigniorship of Notre-Dame-des-Anges. He does not own any livestock

October 13, 1671 to Laurent Dubosc, settler (contract R. Becquet). Jeanne and Barthélemy returned to France in 1671. It is also believed that Georges and François, Barthélemy's children returned to France with their parents at the same time. The couple settled in La Rochelle, where Jeanne died on May 29, 1673, in the Notre-Dame parish, at the age of 42. Jeanne Levasseur

did not have any children. Was she related to Jean and Pierre Levasseur, our ancestors? It cannot be confirmed.

some people to spend some time in New-France, but eventually return to their native country, France.

Barthélemy Tesson married a sixth time in La Rochelle. He died on December 20, 1679 aged 58 in La Rochelle. He spent nearly 10 years in New-France, on l'Île d'Orléans and in the Charlesbourg region of Québec. It was not uncommon for

The six weddings by Barthélemy Tesson:

1.

1st wife: Marie Dusein. The wedding took place on December 9, 1645, in La Rochelle, France. Marie did not come to Canada. The couple had a child named Jean. We know that the latter is present in Quebec in 1664, as he was confirmed on June 3rd of that year. Jean, was a resident of Charlesbourg. He entered into a marriage contract August 24, 1666 with Suzanne de Lavoie (contract R. Becquet). Their marriage was celebrated on September 13, 1666, in Quebec City. We don't know the date when Jean Tesson and his wife returned to France. However we know he died in La Rochelle prior to March 27, 1669, the date his widow remarried.

2.

2nd wife: Anne Chalupeau, daughter of Jacques and Jacquette Leblanc. The marriage took place in France in 1652. They had three children: François, Françoise and Georges. The 1666 census indicates that François and Georges were living with their widowed father on l'Île d'Orléans.

3.

3rd wife: Perrine Regnaut, daughter of John and Catherine Panneflek. The marriage was celebrated in La Rochelle in Saint-Nicolas church, on October 11, 1660. The couple had no children. Perrine did not come to the Canada.

4.

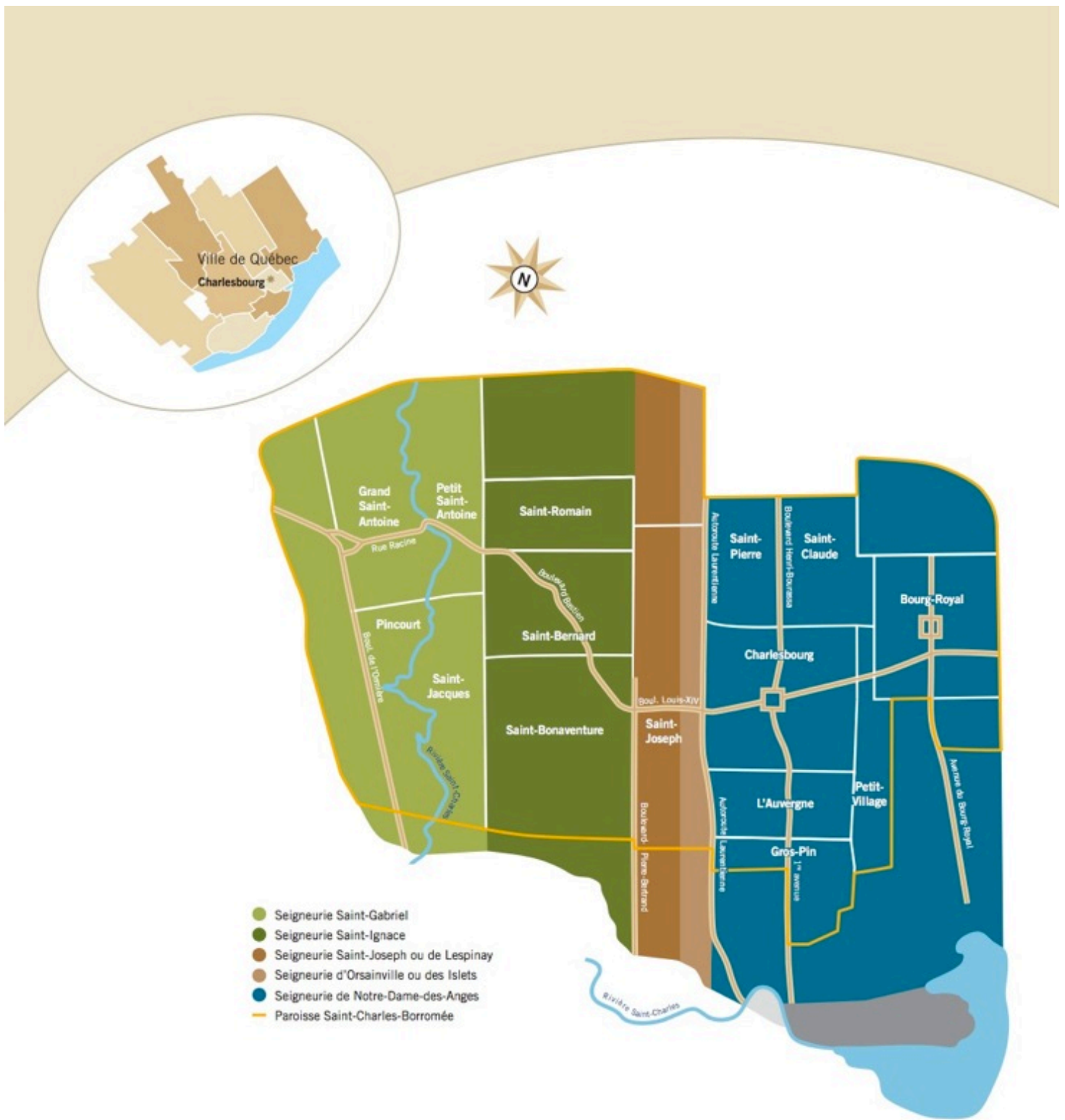
4th wife: Marie Terrien, daughter of André, a farmer and Marie Foucauld. Marie was baptized on October 9, 1631, in La Rochelle, Aunis (Charente-Maritime). at the church, Notre-Dame-de-Cougnès. Marie and Barthélemy were married in La Rochelle in the Notre Dame church on December 9, 1661. Marie died on 13 may 1664 in France. The couple had no children.

5.

5th wife: Jeanne Levasseur, daughter of Nicholas and Catherine Leforestier, a King's daughter. Jeanne arrived in Quebec on September 25, 1667. Three weeks later, Jeanne and Barthélemy Tesson entered into a marriage contract before the notary R. Becquet on October 17, 1667. The marriage took place at the church Notre-Dame in Québec, on October 24 of the same year.

6.

6th wife: Jeanne Tessier, widow of Jean Vien, miller. Jeanne and Barthélemy were married on January 17, 1674 in La Rochelle at the Notre Dame church. A child was born from that union.



This map represents five domains or seignories in the parish of Charlesbourg, at the time of New France. Formerly, Charlesbourg was located north of the city of Québec. Today, it is a borough of the city.

The map is from: *Histoire de raconter. Les premières familles de la paroisse de Charlesbourg*, p. 2

Our ancestors, Jean, Pierre and Laurent Levasseur, did they marry King's daughters?

To this question, I would answer negatively. In 1663, year of the arrival of the first daughters of the King, the Levasseurs were already present in Quebec. Our ancestors Jean and Pierre, two brothers, were living in Quebec. Jean Levasseur arrived in Québec around 1651. He was married in Paris on 23 April 1645, with Marguerite Richard. At the end December 1662, this couple already had a family of eight children.

With regard to Pierre Levasseur, the date of his arrival in New France is not known. His name appears for the first time on August 13, 1654, in the parish registers of Quebec at the baptism of his nephew, Pierre Drolet, son of his sister Jeanne. Ancestor Pierre married Jeanne Chaverlange, in Quebec City, at the Notre-Dame church on October 23, 1655. The couple had a family of 4 children, at the end of December, 1662.

As for ancestor of Laurent Levasseur, his name is mentioned for the first time in the colony in the 1666 census. He was eighteen years old. He was employed by Guillemette Hébert, widow of Guillaume Couillard and daughter of Louis Hébert, a settler and the first Canadian apothecary. It is possible that Laurent arrived in September 1663, as an employee. Laurent married Marie Marchand, daughter of Louis Marchand and Françoise Morineau, in Québec at the Notre-Dame church on April 30, 1670. Marie Marchand, as well as his sister Madeleine and her brothers, Louis and Jacques, probably arrived in 1669 with their parents. François Marchand, another brother had arrived in Quebec, on May 25, 1664 on the ship «Le Navire Noir» that had departed from Dieppe and La Rochelle. Marie Marchand, not being an orphan would not have been a King's daughter. As a young girl, she accompanied her family who sought to improve their life style in New-France.

Sources:

Dictionnaire généalogique des descendants de Laurent Levasseur 1666-2008, Saint-Charles-Borromée, Québec, Association des Levasseur d'Amérique, 2008, 749 p.

Dictionnaire généalogique des descendants de Jean et Pierre Levasseur 1645-2008, Saint-Charles-Borromée, Québec, Association des Levasseur d'Amérique, 2008, 651 p.

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Les Filles du Roy (1663-1673) Champlain, Batiscan, Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade, Les Éditions Histoire Québec, 2013, 420 p.

LAFORTUNE, Hélène et Normand ROBERT. Parchemin : extrait banque de données notariales du Québec ancien 1626-1784. CD-ROM, Société de recherche historique Archiv-Histo, Montréal, 2004.

LANDRY, Yves. *Les Filles du roi au XVIIe siècle*, Montréal, Bibliothèque québécoise, 2013, 276 p.

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MIGRATIONS. http://www.migrations.fr/700fillesduroy_3.htm

MIGRATIONS. http://www.migrations.fr/NAVIRES_DIEPPE/stlouis_dieppe1667.htm

MIGRATIONS. http://www.migrations.fr/le_noir_de_hollande_1664.htm

PROGRAMME DE RECHERCHE SUR L'ÉMIGRATION DES FRANÇAIS EN NOUVELLE-FRANCE.

<http://www.unicaen.fr/mrsh/prefen/fichePion.php?id=61431>

PROGRAMME DE RECHERCHE EN DÉMOGRAPHIE HISTORIQUE (PRDH), Université de Montréal. Répertoire des actes de baptême, mariage, sépulture du Québec ancien, 1621-1799. CD-ROM et Internet

SOCIÉTÉ D'HISTOIRE DES FILLES DU ROY. *Les Filles du Roy et leurs époux.* Québec, SHFR, 2011, 72 p.

SOCIÉTÉ D'HISTOIRE DES FILLES DU ROY. <http://lesfillesduroy-quebec.org/>

**In a future issue of the newsletter, there will be a sequel
to this article, by Huguette Levasseur.**

*«Anne Leblanc, King's daughter, grand-mother and great- grand- mother of
many Levasseurs»*

Extraordinary general meeting
Members of the Levasseur Association of America
Saturday May 10, 2014 at 1:30 PM
At: L'Hotelier, Le Cinquante-Cinq in the FARDEL room
4810 Fardel Ave. Bécancour (St-Grégoire)
Québec, Canada G9H 1V6
Telephone 819 233 2929

Agenda

- 1 - Adoption of the agenda and appointment of a Secretary

- 2 - Presentation and adoption of the New Rules and Regulations governing the Levasseur Association of America. These documents will be forwarded to the Government of Canada in order to obtain a certificate of prorogation.

- 3 - The President of the elections, appointed by the Board of Directors in accordance with regulation 11.2, will identify the list of nominated candidates he received one hour prior to the start of the meeting.

- 4 - Election, for the positions of the new Board of Directors of the non for profit organization (NFPO) effective following the receipt of certification for the positions of:

 President
 Vice President
 Treasurer.

- 5 - Selection of a secretary by the new elected board of directors.

- 6 - Appointment of an Auditor.

- 7- Other issues.

- 8- Closing of the meeting.



By: Jean-Pierre Levasseur (250)

Discovery in Haute-Saône

Who is the author of these works?

Two ancient inverted plaster casts were discovered in an abandoned house in the village of Choye, in Haute-Saône. Mr. Jacques Chevanne seeks to find the artist who made them. They are signed, Levasseur. The objects were hidden just to the right in a small shed attached to the house.

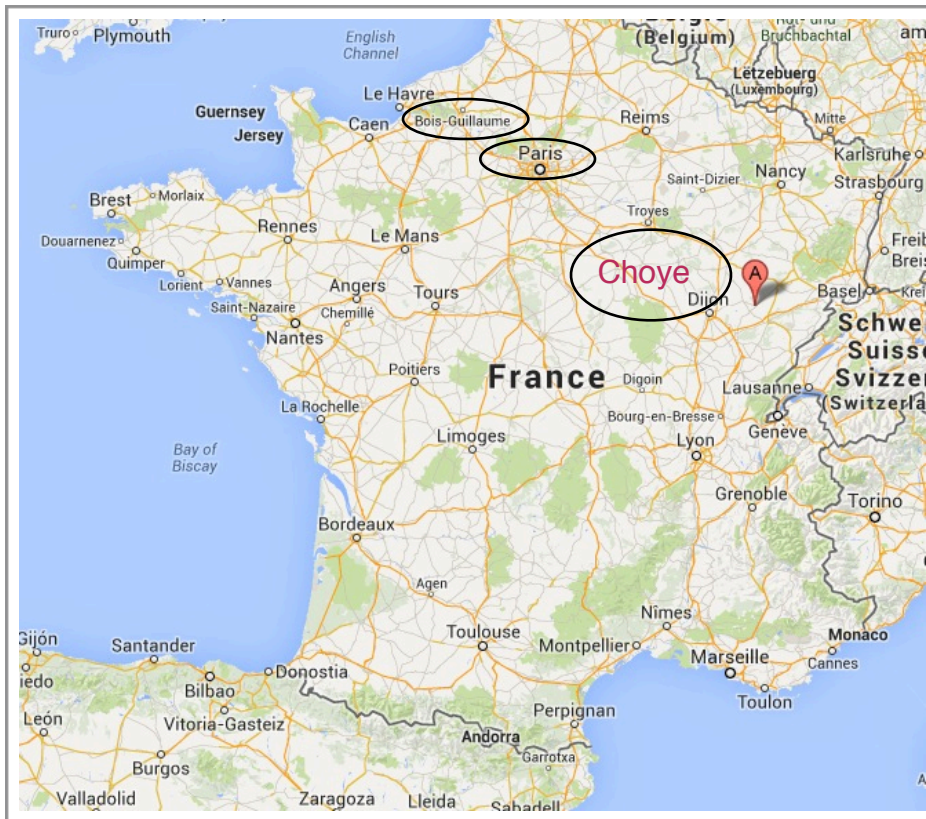
Mr. Jacques Chevanne of Choye, a village in Haute-Saône in France, contacted us following its discovery in a house in his home village. The house had been abandoned for over 100 years. The plaster casts M. Chevanne discovered, a positive and negative one, were hidden above a wall and are signed with the Levasseur patronymic surname. He would like to identify its creator. The owners may have hidden these casts during World War II when France was under the German occupation. Note, this signature does not include a given name, hence the difficulty to identify its author.



Following research with local museums, these casts would appear to be copies of work meant to be used for a sculpture on a given site.

From a historical point of view, there appears to be no trace of people bearing the Levasseur name in this village of nearly 400 inhabitants of Haute-Saône. A quick search in the French databases (<http://www.geopatronyme.com>), indicates the presence of three Levasseur in the period 1891-1915.

The owners of this house, the family Ploux-Bouzerot, do not seem to have any ties with art and are therefore unlikely the owners of these abandoned casts.



Choye is a commune in the Department of Haute-Saône in the Franche-Comté region.

L'ancêtre Laurent est originaire de Bois-Guillaume au nord-est de la France, Pierre Levasseur de la région de Paris.

Dating these abandoned casts is a complex task. They are possibly dated between 1870 and 1950. M Chevanne and his daughter Cécile conducted a survey with local authorities. According to oral tradition, a Levasseur family is reported to have lived in Choye and this has been confirmed by others. The mayors of this village have kept the civil registry since the French Revolution. An audit was also made of the land survey registry for traces of this Levasseur family and no notarial act, or land titles bearing the Levasseur name were found. One would have expected this search to provide traces of these Levasseur, but it has been to no avail, no pertinent findings were to be found.

Here are the coordinates of M. Chevanne if ever you have any information that would identify the author of these abandoned plaster casts: topmole@hotmail.fr

Taking into account the period when these casts were produced, it is very unlikely that we can relate this family to Levasseurs who came to New France in the 17th century.

External links :

- [Choye - Web site](#)
- [Choye' map](#)
- [Link to Google Street View](#)
- [The LEVASSEUR's in France](#)

Gathering

TROIS-RIVIÈRES, September 6 & 7, 2014

4485 boul. Gene H. Kruger,
Trois-Rivières, (Québec) G9A 4N3

Program for the gathering in Trois Rivières

- 12h30 Welcome and registration of participants
- 13h30 Welcoming comments by the President of the Levasseur Association of America
- 14h00 Présentation : Presentation : Levasseurs settle in Trois-Rivières, Denis-Joseph and his descendants
Responsible : **Jean-Marie Levasseur**
- 15h00 Break
- 15h20 Group photo
- 15h30 King's daughters and the Levasseurs
Responsible : **Huguette and Béatrice Levasseur**
- 17h00 Levasseur's on Web
Responsible : **Jean-Pierre Levasseur**
- 17h15 Pierre and Jean Levasseur descendants' genalogical dictionary
Responsible : **Huguette Levasseur**
- 17h30 Genealogical activities and exhibits
Responsible : **Joceline Levasseur and her team**
- 18h30 Dinner and door prizes



Organizing Committee:

Pierre and Hélène Levasseur, Jean-Marie Levasseur (819-377-4306)
Gaston Levasseur, Françoise Levasseur,
Béatrice Levasseur, Irène and André Levasseur

Sunday September 7, 2014: Annual meeting of the members of the Levasseur Association of America.
The meeting will be held at: 4425, boul. Gene H. Kruger, à Trois-Rivières, QC.

Please note that all details on registration for the gathering will be published in the next issue of the Levasseur Newsletter with a special email. To be informed promptly, you can also check on this link:
www.levasseur.org/trois-rivieres

GENERAL INFORMATIONS



The Association, Levasseur d'Amérique Inc. is a non-profit organization, founded in 1988, in accordance to a federal charter. Its goals are:

- To join together and unite a large number of Levasseur and other descendants who have adopted the patronymic Borgia, Carmel, Carmell, Vasseur, Vassor, Vasser.
- To organize meetings and gatherings that reinforce links between the members of the great Levasseur family.
- To promote, develop and diffuse historical genealogical knowledge about the Levasseur families with Internet, an electronic Newsletter published three times per year also the publication of genealogical dictionaries.
- To maintain and update, on an ongoing basis, the genealogical data base available to members at all times on the Internet.
- To make available to members a family photo album and the Newsletters that the Association has published since 1988.
- To honor the memory of our forefathers and their descendants by way of monuments, plaques or symbolic gestures that commemorate historic events that are chronicle the Levasseur family.
- To gather all documents related to the Levasseur family for the purpose of constructing archives that will constitute the heritage of our Association and that will provide a source of information for historians and genealogists.

Board of Directors 2013-2014

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Director : [Jean-Marie Levasseur](#) (Trois-Rivières, QC)

The Levasseur Newsletter

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